

The Pennsylvania Ministerial Convention, held at Johnstown Sept. 27 and 28, 1888.

MORNING SESSION.

Promptly at the appointed hour the Ministerial Convention of the Brethren Church assembled in annual session. Rev. A. L. Garber was elected temporary Chairman, who duly opened the Convention. The choir sang "Nearer my God to Thee," and a scriptural lesson read and prayer offered.

On motion a Committee of three was appointed, consisting of Revs. W. L. Spanogle, W. A. Harman and W. Gans, on nomination of permanent officers. The Committee reported as follows: Chairman, Rev. J. H. Knepper; Assistant Chairman, Rev. J. B. Wampler; Secretary, Rev. A. D. Gnagy; Treasurer, Rev. Daniel Crofford. Upon motion of R. Z. Replogle the report was adopted and the officers named selected. Rev. J. H. Knepper tendered his resignation as Chairman, which, after some discussion was accepted and Rev. W. L. Spanogle selected to fill the vacancy.

On motion of J. W. Smouse the Convention was declared to be one of delegates duly selected. On motion of R. Z. Replogle only duly elected delegates and ministers were given the right to vote.

There being a number of visiting ministers, the courtesies of the Convention were extended to them on motion of Rev. J. D. McFaden. All speeches on assigned topics were limited to fifteen minutes, the concluding speech to be delivered by the Delineator.

The Chairman then appointed the following Committees:

Committee on Queries.—Revs. R. Z. Replogle, William Gans and W. A. Seibert.

Committee on Resolution.—Messrs J. C. Cassel, and W. H. Menges and Miss M. M. Sterling.

Committee on Church Polity.—Revs. J. D. McFaden, A. D. Gnagy, J. H. Knepper, Daniel Crofford and W. L. Spanogle.

A paper on church polity was presented by Rev. W. L. Spanogle which was handed to the proper committee.

The question of "Congregational Church Government" was ably discussed by Revs. J. B. Wampler, J. W. Smouse and J. C. Cassel.

Rev. J. D. McFaden presented the following resolution, which was accepted:

WHEREAS, God has given us laws for the government of his church.

Resolved, That in church government we are scriptural.

Rev. D. D. Beale, D. D., of the Presbyterian church, and Rev. F. P. Saylor, of the Evangelical Association were introduced to the convention and the usual courtesies were extended to them. The former delivered a very interesting and edifying address, at the conclusion of which the convention adjourned.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The afternoon session was opened by singing the hymn, "The Great Physician."

The discussion of topics was then taken up. On the subject of "Ministerial Support," Revs. R. Z. Replogle, D. Crofford, J. D. McFaden, J. H. Knepper, J. Cassel and others made some very interesting and appropriate remarks.

"Best Methods of Developing Lay Help," was discussed by Rev. W. A. Harman.

At this point a few interesting queries were discussed.

On the question of "Our Duty to the Temperance Cause," W. A. Adams took the position that all churches should unite in their efforts to overthrow the liquor traffic. He made an earnest plea to all to instill the principles of total abstinence in the hearts of the people. He was followed by Revs. J. B. Wampler, W. Gans, E. H. Smith, J. H. Knepper, J. D. McFaden, J. Cassel and W. H. Menges, all of whom made sterling addresses in behalf of the temperance cause.

The following resolution was presented and adopted:

Resolved, That our duty toward the cause of temperance is to preach, pray and vote against the evil of intemperance.

After music by the choir the Convention adjourned.

EVENING SESSION.

The evening session was opened by Rev. A. L. Garber, who read an interesting and instructive paper on "Sisters Society of Christian Endeavor." The paper was read in a forcible manner, and was listened to attentively. This Society is now officered as follows: President, Mrs. Rev. A. J. Sterling; Recording Secretary, Mrs. Rev. Gans; Treasurer, Mrs. Rev. Seibert; Corres-

sponding Secretary, Mrs. Rev. Smouse. The "Mission of the Church" was ably discussed by Rev. J. D. McFaden, who advocated that the mission of the church was the mission of Jesus, and should be placed above personality, above family and above denominational lines.

After the discussion on "Individual Responsibility" by Revs. Spanogle, Garber and Wampler, the convention adjourned.

FRIDAY MORNING SESSION.

The convention opened with devotional services, led by Rev. W. A. Harman, who read the One Hundredth Psalm.

This was followed by singing and prayer.

The paper in the hands of the Committee on Church Polity was called for and read. On motion of Rev. Gans it was received and adopted *seriatim*.

The convention approved the following preamble, presented by W. L. Spanogle, and the report of the committee follows:

WHEREAS, The Brethren church of Pennsylvania, has, through the blessings of God, great reason for congratulation, in the fact of its having become an established and commonly recognized Christian church by the existing religious organizations, and that amidst the most adverse and trying circumstances, when brethren of like precious faith were arrayed against us, and when all conceivable means were used to crush us as an organism; that, amidst all this, the little cloud as seen from Mt. Carmel has spread and its copious showers have been constantly falling. Churches have been organized, souls born of God, and the corporals guard of Pa. has become a brigade, marching with unfurled banners, bearing the bright inscription, "The Bible, and nothing but the Bible," and the war cry, "If God be for us, who can be against us," we hope, will inspire us to increased efforts to assail the ramparts of sin, and plant the gospel banner in every city, plain and hamlet, giving glory to God who has so blessed our labors in the past. And,

WHEREAS, In our retrospect, in our experiences and observations, we have all no doubt learned much; and among the many things learned, is the fact that any organization, whether religious, social or political, to be successful, must be properly organized and disciplined. Gen. Grant said before his final attack upon Richmond, "Before I attack the enemy in his gibraltar I must have all my available force at my command." In looking over the field, we see a lack of complete organization and a lack of cooperation, our available forces are not brought into requisition properly. In some parts of the field there is a large surplus of ministers who are rusting to death for want of use. In other fields there is spiritual starvation. Macedonia calls come ringing in our ears, but are lost in the distant echo. The Master calls, but no response. The harvest is great but the laborers are few. Ministers who have been highly successful as God's servants are compelled, from force of circumstances, to abandon the field and engage in secular avocation in order to sustain soul and body—but more especially the body—and as a consequence, the army of God is deprived of their help. Local missionary work is absolutely neglected. Numbers of churches exist who do not enjoy the privilege of a minister, who are not able to give a minister the support he should have, and are thus deprived of spiritual food, so essential to Christian life. With the view and purpose, then, of bringing about a cooperation of the churches of Pa., and a more systematic and practical method, it is hereby

1. Resolved, That this body be known as the Convention of the Brethren Church of the State of Pennsylvania.
2. Resolved, That this convention be composed of all ministers of the Brethren church of the aforesaid state and one lay delegate from each church of one hundred members or less, and an additional delegate to every one hundred members or fraction thereof.
3. Resolved, That it shall meet annually at such time and place as may be designated.
4. Resolved, That the officers shall consist of a Moderator, Ass't Moderator, Treasurer and Clerk, to be elected annually by ballot.
5. Resolved, The Convention shall elect by ballot a Board of Church Extension and Missions, consisting of six members to serve for a term of three years each, except in the case of the first election; two to be elected for one year, two for two years and two for three years. Said Board to perform such duties as may be outlined by the convention.
6. Resolved, The convention shall elect by ballot a Board of Ministerial Supply to consist of three members to serve for three years to be elected in the manner prescribed in Art. 5. It shall be the duty of said Board to obtain the names and address of all ministers in the state, and shall cooperate with churches desiring pastors and ministers desiring stations, and encourage men or WOMEN of ability to enter the Christian ministry.

The same was then, upon motion, of Rev. J. H. Knepper, adopted as a whole, and the Chair authorized to appoint a committee of three to put into operation the purposes of the said articles at once.

The Chair appointed Revs. R. Z. Replogle, J. C. Cassel and W. H. Menges.

Said committee reported a number of names as parties eligible, and the Convention proceeded to elect the officers by ballot.

Election of officers of Board of Missions and Church Extension resulted as follows: M. M. Sterling, three years; W. L. Spanogle, three years; Eld. Daniel Crofford, two years; Bro. H. C. Cassel, two years; Sister Emma Beachly, one year; J. B. Wampler, one year.

Election of officers of Board of Sup-

ply resulted as follows: Dr. U. M. Beachly, two years; J. D. McFaden, three years; Wm. Gans, one year.

After music by the choir the subject of "Education and Ashland University" was discussed by Revs. E. H. Smith, J. W. Smouse and A. L. Garber. Adjourned at 12 m. to meet at 1 P. M.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Opened promptly on time, the choir singing a hymn in a very effective manner.

A motion to recommend to all our churches the last Sunday of May as "Children's Day," was put and carried.

The following committee was appointed by the Chair: Executive Committee—Revs. J. H. Knepper, of Berlin; William Gans, of Uniontown, and E. H. Smith, of Vinco.

On motion of Rev. Smouse, a resolution was adopted urging a semi-annual collection in each church for missionary purposes, and the preaching of sermons on the same subject.

A resolution to accept Ashland University was adopted and three trustees were elected to represent Pennsylvania on the Board of Trustees, as follows:

Resolved, That we, members and delegates of the Brethren church of Pa., in convention assembled, vote to accept Ashland University as the educational institution of the Church, and elect three persons to the Board of Trustees, as provided in the Constitution of said University. Furthermore, we recommend the churches and members in the State to extend their hearty support.

Trustees: P. A. Cough, three years; John Sterling, two years; Benshoff, one year.

Committee on Resolutions presented the following, which was adopted:

It is resolved by this Convention that the thanks of the same be tendered the members of Johnstown Church and friends for their kind hospitality, and to the choir for their sweet and soul-stirring music. It is also

Resolved, That the press of Johnstown, and the Johnstown DAILY DEMOCRAT especially, be tendered the thanks of the Convention for the favorable notice of its proceedings. It is further

Resolved, That the ministers and delegates be urged to carry home, and practically apply the many suggestions and resolutions adopted by this convention.

Respectfully submitted:

J. C. CASSEL,  
MISS M. M. STERLING,  
REV. E. H. SMITH,  
Committee.

On motion of Jacob Cassel a vote of thanks was tendered the Moderator, Rev. W. L. Spanogle, for the able and efficient manner in which he presided; to the Secretary, Rev. A. D. Gnagy, and other officers of the Convention for the efficiency of their work. Very affecting closing remarks were made by the Moderator, J. C. Cassel, J. B. Wampler, A. L. Garber, Miss M. M. Sterling, S. J. Giffin, W. A. Harman, J. H. Knepper and R. Z. Replogle. Adjourned by singing "When Shall We Meet Again," and benediction by Rev. Knepper.

W. L. SPANOGLE, Moderator.  
A. D. GNAGY, Secretary.

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Cost of Crime.

No method of estimating the cost of crime to the community has ever been devised. The problem involves too many elements, of which some are very obscure. First, there is the cost of preventing crime, by means of the police. The cost of the police departments of the United States was estimated, in the census, at \$15,000,000; it probably is not now less than \$20,000,000 annually. This does not include the cost of the private detective force, which it is impossible to ascertain. In the second place, there is the machinery of the courts. There are, in the United States, more than 2,000 courts which possess more or less criminal jurisdiction, besides more than 80,000 justices of the peace. What it costs to maintain this judicial system, with its paraphernalia of judges, clerks, attorneys, bailiffs, witnesses and jurors, is beyond computation. Neither can it be ascertained what proportion of this bill of expense is chargeable to the civil and the criminal dockets, respectively. In the third place, there is the cost of maintaining the prisons. The number of inmates of prisons and reformatory institutions in 1880, was 70,000. By this time it is probable that it has risen to 80,000. Assuming that the charge for keeping up the prisons, including building and repairs, is not less than two hundred dollars a year for each inmate, this item of expense is not less than \$16,000,000 annually.

But these three items taken together constitute only one side of the account. They represent the cost to the community of the defense against crime. In this calculation no account is taken of the cost to the criminal class of carrying on the war against social order and security. Neither has any reference been made to the losses to individuals resulting from successful fraud and depredations.

It must be evident that the importance of the crime question has its economic as well as its moral side. The handful of men and women who have devoted their lives to the effort to reduce the volume of crime, by improved methods of dealing with crime and criminals, are incidentally protecting and subserving the interests of Property. Yet Property fails to recognize the value of the service rendered, and contributes little or nothing in aid of it. The prison reformer is expected to work for nothing and board himself. The National Prison Association, and the Prison Associations of the several states, ought not to have the difficulty in securing the funds for the prosecution of their work, which they now experience.

BOOKS,

For Sale by

The Brethren Pub. House.

- Bible Commentary, by Jamieson, Fasset and Brown, four 12mo. volumes, the best cheap commentary, \$10 00.
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- The Songs of Pilgrimage: the best and largest collection of sacred music and old hymns, by mail, \$1.35.
- My Northern Travels, by Julia Wood, an interesting account of a tour, paper, 50cts, cloth, 75 cts, gilt, \$1.00.
- History of the Ashland County Historical Society, 176 pages, paper, 50cts.
- The Brethren Annual for any year from 1864, 10cts.
- Reports of any Convention of the Brethren church, each, 10cts.
- Beausher, Evolution, Science and the Bible, by J. A. Miller, D. D., M. D., 44 pages, 10cts.

Try It Yourself.

"It is of no use to argue the question, Philip, I am neither stubborn nor opinionated. I have simply learned a lesson that will last a lifetime."

"Look here, Jack! you are like some old bachelor who has been filled by one woman, and goes about declaring all women are false."

"Not at all! my brother Charles died of Bright's disease, brought on by using one of these so-called 'blood purifiers'—the kind you see attractively advertised in every book and corner. It contains iodine of potassium, a drug useful in extreme cases when cautiously given under a doctor's supervision, but death-dealing to all who take it in quantity. If your brother had died under such circumstances, you would hate patent medicines as I do."

"I do dislike the name of that first-called 'blood purifier,' for I have heard a first-class physician say it is the cause of half the cases of Bright's disease in the country, and it is strange the proprietors have not been prosecuted for selling it. But I was recommending Vinegar Bitters and that does not contain any mineral, narcotic or other hurtful drug."

"Oh nobody supposes that old woman's remedy will hurt anybody; the question is will it cure anything? I'd as soon think of taking some of my grandmother's herb tea."

"You would be better off, Jack, if you had some of that tea to tone up your system now, instead of taking a glass of brandy to make you sleep one night, and perhaps a bottle of beer the next."

"Is this a temperance lecture, Phil?"

"No, it's a Vinegar Bitters lecture. I've taken the medicine more or less for fifteen years, and look the wild world over, you will not find a healthier man than I am."

"What is all this nonsense about old style and new style Vinegar Bitters; are they different?"

"Yes, the old style looks like coffee with milk in, the new style looks like coffee without milk. The man who made the old style for twenty years—a practical chemist—made a milder, pleasanter preparation, adding to it here and taking from it there, until he produced, my wife says, the finest medicine ever made. It cured her of constipation, and it cures the children of hives and all the little ailments they ever have. If my wife thinks they have worms, she doses them with old style. We always have both kinds in the house, and together, they keep the doctor away."

"And you insist that the proof of the pudding—"

"Is the eating—precisely. Jack, get a bottle of the old style Vinegar Bitters—men, I think, prefer old style usually—try it, and you will then be like an old bachelor who, after railing against women for years, falls in love with a good woman at last. You will say there are good and bad patent medicines, but Vinegar Bitters is the best of the lot."

"All right, Phil, to please you, I'll try it and report results."



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Time Table.

May 20th, 1888.

TRAINS EASTWARD.			
STATIONS.	No. 2.	No. 12.	No. 10.
Chicago	8:30 a.m.	8:30 a.m.	8:30 a.m.
Indianapolis	10:30 a.m.	10:30 a.m.	10:30 a.m.
Cincinnati	12:30 p.m.	12:30 p.m.	12:30 p.m.
Columbus	2:30 p.m.	2:30 p.m.	2:30 p.m.
Dayton	4:30 p.m.	4:30 p.m.	4:30 p.m.
Springfield	6:30 p.m.	6:30 p.m.	6:30 p.m.
St. Louis	8:30 p.m.	8:30 p.m.	8:30 p.m.
St. Paul	10:30 p.m.	10:30 p.m.	10:30 p.m.
Chicago	12:30 a.m.	12:30 a.m.	12:30 a.m.
TRAINS WEST.			
STATIONS.	No. 2.	No. 3.	No. 1.
Chicago	8:30 a.m.	8:30 a.m.	8:30 a.m.
Indianapolis	10:30 a.m.	10:30 a.m.	10:30 a.m.
Cincinnati	12:30 p.m.	12:30 p.m.	12:30 p.m.
Columbus	2:30 p.m.	2:30 p.m.	2:30 p.m.
Dayton	4:30 p.m.	4:30 p.m.	4:30 p.m.
Springfield	6:30 p.m.	6:30 p.m.	6:30 p.m.
St. Louis	8:30 p.m.	8:30 p.m.	8:30 p.m.
St. Paul	10:30 p.m.	10:30 p.m.	10:30 p.m.
Chicago	12:30 a.m.	12:30 a.m.	12:30 a.m.

\*Trains marked thus: †, stop on signal.

T. W. BURROWS, F. C. DONALD, Superintendent. Gen. Pass. Agt.